1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

recent charge filed on March 6, 2008 in United States v. Francisco Mora Alvarez (Crim. No. 08-0143 RMW) involves evidence found pursuant to an execution of a search warrant that is related to the charges in United States v. Guillermo Alejandro Zaragoza, et. al (Crim. No. 08-0083 PJH) (hereinafter the "Zaragoza case"), a case currently pending before the Hon. Phyllis J. Hamilton.

The Zaragoza case involves a six-month long wiretap investigation of the methamphetamine trafficking activities of various individuals in the San Francisco and San Jose areas. In connection with this investigation and based on the information obtained from the court-authorized wire interceptions, 11 search warrants were executed on February 27, 2008. One of these searches was executed on the home of Martel Valencia (hereinafter "VALENCIA"), who is a defendant in the Zaragoza case. During this search, Francisco Mora Alvarez (hereinafter "ALVAREZ") was found in one of the bedrooms in possession of, among other things, approximately 750 grams of a mixture or substance containing methamphetamine. ALVAREZ was subsequently arrested and charged in a criminal complaint with a violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841. On March 6, 2008, a federal grand jury indicted ALVAREZ for the aforementioned violation. The ALVAREZ case was venued in San Jose, California, and is currently pending before the Hon. Ronald M. Whyte.<sup>1</sup>

The Government submits that these two cases are related within the meaning of Local Rule 8-1(b)(1) because they overlap in that they share a common search and probable cause. It is anticipated that VALENCIA and ALVAREZ may file suppression motions in connection with this search.<sup>2</sup> Furthermore, the cases are related within the meaning of Local Rule 8-1(b)(2)

21 22

23

24

25

26

27

28

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A status conference has been in scheduled in the ALVAREZ matter on April 7, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> However, the Government submits that ALVAREZ's ability to contest the search of VALENCIA's home is severely circumscribed for the following several reasons. First, although VALENCIA was a named interceptee in the court-authorized wiretaps in the Zaragoza case, ALVAREZ was not a named interceptee on any of these wiretaps. Second, ALVAREZ has not shown any claim of ownership over any of the cellular telephones that were the subjects of the wiretaps. Third, there are no known interceptions of ALVAREZ on any of the wiretaps. Therefore, at this time and absent a contrary showing by ALVAREZ, the Government submits

U.S. v. Francisco Mora Alvarez (08-0143 RMW)

because if heard by separate judges they likely would involve substantial duplication of labor by the two judges.

Based on the foregoing, the Government respectfully suggests that the Court make a determination as to consolidating these cases once any suppression motions regarding the search of VALENCIA's home have been filed.<sup>3</sup> That way, the Court may be in a better position to assess whether there exists sufficient overlap between the two cases and whether the need for judicial economy and the conservation of judicial resources justify the assignment of the cases to a single judge.

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH P. RUSSONIELLO United States Attorney

/s/ Nicole M. Kim

NICOLE M. KIM Assistant U.S. Attorney

Date: March 12, 2008

19

20 21

22

23 24

25

26

27 28 that ALVAREZ is not an "aggrieved person" within the meaning of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2518(10)(a), or an individual who may move to suppress the wiretaps in the Zaragoza case. Since the probable cause underlying the search of VALENCIA's home was based on information obtained from the court-authorized wiretaps in the Zaragoza case, and since, as described above, ALVAREZ does not have standing to challenge these wiretaps, ALVAREZ's ability to contest the search of VALENCIA's home as a result is severely constricted.

<sup>3</sup> With respect to the handling of any suppression motions of this search, the Government requests that the motions be handled in a consolidated matter.

Notice of Related Cases:

U.S. v. Guillermo Zaragoza, et. al (08-0083 PJH)

U.S. v. Francisco Mora Alvarez (08-0143 RMW)